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Attorney Docket No. SET 18.215 (100809-16198)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: Yuichi INOMATA, et al.  
Confirmation No.: 7632  
Serial No.: 09/758,108  
Filed: January 10, 2001  
Title: INTERFACE DEVICE AND...  
Examiner: Raymond Ngan Phan  
Art Unit: 2181

November 3, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

S I R:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of documents listed thereon. These documents contain information in which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

Also attached is a copy of a Notification of Reason for Refusal dated August 12, 2003 from the corresponding Japanese Patent Application. All of the documents listed in Form PTO-1449 appear in the Notification of Reason for Refusal.

Any fee due with this paper may be  
charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Filed by Express Mail  
Receipt No. EL980184058 WS  
on 11-3-2003  
pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.10.  
By Frederic D. Boyle

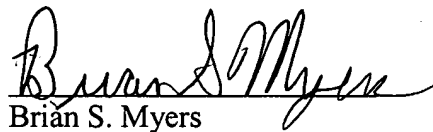
Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement, so no fee is due.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 §CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

**Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
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DOCKET NO.: SCET 18.215(100809-16198)